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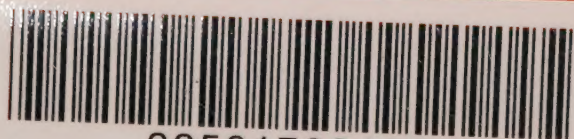
• **CENTRAL COUNCIL** •
FOR
INFANT & CHILD
WELFARE



ANNUAL REPORT
Carnegie House · 117 · Piccadilly · W1

1st April, 1927, to 31st March, 1928.

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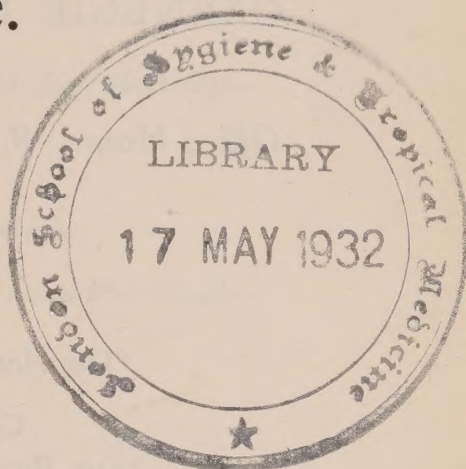
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Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare.

(Incorporated 1919.)



Under the auspices of the
Joint Council of the British
Red Cross Society and Order
of St. John.



CONSTITUENT BODIES AND FEDERATIONS.

Cornwall Federation for Maternity and Child Welfare.

Hertfordshire Federation for Maternity and Child Welfare.

North Western Federation for Maternity and Child Welfare.

Yorkshire Federation for Maternity and Child Welfare.

Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres.

Central Council for the Care of Cripples.

Child Welfare Travelling Exhibition.

Incorporated Midwives' Institute.

Invalid Children's Aid Association.

Mothercraft Training Society (Babies of the Empire).

National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality.

National Baby Week Council.

National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child.

National Health Society.

National Institute for the Blind (Blind Babies' Department).

National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare.

National Society of Day Nurseries.

State Children's Association.

SUMMARY OF OBJECTS.

(a) To co-ordinate and assist the work of the various national and local voluntary organisations concerned in the care of motherhood, infancy and childhood.

(b) To assist in the establishment and maintenance of such residential institutions as the Constituent Bodies may from time to time find necessary.

(c) To promote a standardisation of training for social welfare workers in connection with motherhood, infancy and childhood.

8th Annual Report

of the

Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare.

1st April, 1927, to 31st March, 1928.

FORWORD.

IN addition to the work of the Council and its Societies as shown in the following reports, a considerable time has been occupied throughout the past year in formulating a scheme of re-organisation which would co-ordinate the work of the individual societies forming the Central Council. With patience and a real desire to forward the work as a whole, the difficulties have been overcome and a scheme has been drawn up which, having passed the Council, has received the approval of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust and of the Joint Council of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and the British Red Cross Society.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all who have worked so hard and given up so much time to this important work and especially to Lord Islington, whose tact and impartiality were invaluable. It was with great regret that the Council accepted his resignation of the Chairmanship of the Central Council which he had held since Dr. Menzies resigned in 1926. Lord Islington was unsparing in his efforts for the future well-being of the Central Council and his sympathetic understanding of the work and aims of the constituent Societies was largely instrumental in bringing about the present re-organisation of the Central Council.

Under the new title of THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MATENITY AND CHILD WELFARE, it is hoped that the constituent Societies will be brought more closely together and the work will go forward with renewed interest.

Grateful thanks are also due to Dr. Barrie Lambert who acted as Hon. Director and Hon. Secretary to the Central Council since ~~1927~~ when the Council with its constituent Societies moved into Carnegie House.

During the six years she was Hon. Officer, Dr. Lambert gave most generously of her time and energies to the interests of the Central Council and Carnegie House, and it was with great regret that her resignation, on account of increasing pressure of work at the London County Council, was accepted.

The Balance Sheet at the end of the Report shows that the Central Council has not a sufficient income to meet its annual expenditure. One of the first duties of the new Council will be to go thoroughly into the question of finance, both with regard to any possible reduction in expenditure and as to the best means of obtaining a regular income sufficient for its needs and to place the Council in a sound financial position.

ARTHUR STANLEY, *Chairman,*
Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare.

REPORT.

IT is with regret that the Central Council records the death of Mrs. Ralli, who represented the National Society of Day Nurseries both on the Council and the Executive Committee since 1921. Mrs. Ralli was a very sincere friend of the Central Council and ever ready to help when called upon.

The National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality and other constituent Bodies organised a National Conference on Maternity and Infant Welfare, held July 5, 6, 7, 1927, at the British Medical Association Hall, and the Council was glad to be able to co-operate. Sir Arthur Stanley, Chairman of the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, took the Chair at the opening session and the Central Council's Travelling Exhibition was on view in the Hastings Hall, British Medical Association House, where there was ample room to display to advantage the various exhibits.

The National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis held their Annual Conference at the British Medical Association House at which the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare was represented by Dr. Menzies.

The Maternal Mortality Committee which was formed to inquire into the high maternal death rate, held three meetings to which the Central Council sent representatives.

The Central Council is also represented on the Child Guidance Council by Lady Lawrence and sent a representative to a

Council Meeting of the Invalid Children's Aid Association, the subject for discussion being "Further ways in which the Invalid Children's Aid Association can help children under 5."

Exhibitions.

Details of the Travelling and Permanent Exhibitions, which appear in the Organiser's report, show that the past year has been more successful than any previous year.

Journal.

"Maternity and Child Welfare", the official organ of the Central Council, may be regarded as one of the Council's tangible activities, and serves to keep its readers in close touch with the work both of the Council and of the various Societies represented on it. The Editorial sub-Committee meets at Carnegie House and Miss O. Moffatt was elected to fill the vacancy left by Miss Pearson's resignation on leaving London.

Full reports were published of the Conference on Maternal Mortality held at the Central Hall, Westminster, in October, and of the Winter School for Health Visitors, while regular summaries and comments on important publications of the Ministry of Health and the Scottish Board of Health served to provide up-to-date information in regard to public health work. News from other countries included events in America, Australia, New Zealand, India, Holland, France and Germany.

Among special medical articles may be mentioned one on skin diseases by Mr. W. H. Barber, two on rickets by Dr. W. L. Kinnear, one on infections of the eye by Dr. A. Christie Reid, one on rheumatic affections in childhood by Dr. A. Dingwall Fordyce, and a useful all-round review of minor ailments in young children by Dr. Margaret Scott-Dickson.

A full-page cartoon each month deals with the child welfare topic that is uppermost in people's minds, and a series of annotations brings readers into touch with problems, social and medical, at home and abroad. The section on Training and Instruction, with its programme of lectures, makes it possible for students to follow whatever course interests them most.

A number of correspondents regularly send news of local happenings. The lighter side of the work is not overlooked, and plays and stories are introduced, and illustrations collected from many sources. The annual subscription to "Maternity and Child Welfare" is 10s.6d. post free, and the Council would like to see an increased circulation for it. Application forms may be obtained direct from the publishers, Messrs. John Bale,

Sons and Danielsson, Ltd., 89-91, Great Tichfield Street, W.1., or from the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

Library.

The Library of the College of Nursing, which is available to students and infant and child welfare workers recommended by the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, has extended its library hours so as to enable a larger number of members to come to the library. These are now as follows:—

Wednesdays and Fridays	...	9.30—8 p.m.
Other days, including 1st		
Saturday in each month	...	9.30—4.45 p.m.
Saturdays, other than the 1st		
in each month	...	9.30—12.45 p.m.

Lecture Hall.

The Lecture Hall had 76 bookings during the past year, the Hall being taken for a Jumble Sale, a Sale of Work in connection with the Parish of St. James's, Piccadilly, a Christmas Entertainment for the young mothers of St. Martins-in-the-Fields, Courses of Advanced and Elementary Lectures for Mothers on Nursery Problems, a Course of Refresher Lecturers for teachers in Hospital and Special Schools, and many other lectures arranged by the Constituent Societies of the Central Council and other organisations.

Enquiries regarding the hire of the Lecture Hall should be made to the Secretary, Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

The other Committee rooms were used during the year for 750 meetings. These meetings are almost entirely those of the Societies having offices in Carnegie House, the remainder being those of the Association of Nursery Training Colleges, the Workers' Section of the Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres, alternate meetings of the Mothercraft Training Society, and special meetings of other Societies for whom the Lecture Hall was too large.

Grants.

The Central Council gratefully acknowledge grants from the Joint Council of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and the British Red Cross Society towards the General Funds of the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare and from the Institute of Infant Welfare Fund to the Travelling and Permanent Exhibitions.

CHILD WELFARE TRAVELLING EXHIBITION.

1ST APRIL, 1927—31ST MARCH, 1928.

In surveying the activities of the Travelling Exhibitions during the past year, it will be seen that the work has greatly increased both in respect of the number of places visited and the collection and sale of exhibits.

The Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare reorganised their Travelling Exhibition five years ago as, after the display of their exhibit at the *Daily Express* Exhibition at Olympia, requests were made for up-to-date and portable exhibits on child welfare. These requests necessitated an entirely new collection as the former exhibit bought by the Council did not meet these requirements. It was no longer necessary to take round the equipment for an Infant Welfare Centre but exhibits that would illustrate the health teaching which forms part of the routine work of the Public Health Authorities. Each year the exhibitions have steadily developed until there are now two complete Child Welfare Travelling Exhibitions comprising approximately 2,000 articles in each and a third smaller exhibition.

Places visited by the Exhibitions.

During the past year the complete exhibitions, in charge of a lecturer, have visited the following places :—

Aberystwyth	} Tour arranged by the Public Health Committee of the Cardiganshire County Council.
Lampeter	
Llandyssul	
Cardigan	
Johnstone, N.B.—Health Week.	
Abingdon, Berks.—Federation of Women's Institutes.	
Oxford—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Hospitals and Institutions Exhibition, Horticultural Hall.	
Halstead—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Brentwood—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Orsett—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Baby Week Conferences, British Medical Association House.	
Kettering—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Greenwich—Health Week.	
Kingston—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Spennymoor—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Sunderland—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Wednesbury—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	
Barnstaple—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.	

Ipswich—Health Week.
 Harwich—Health Week.
 Bexhill—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
 Stroud—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
 Penzance—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
 Chingford North } Health Week.
 Chingford South }
 Winchester—Hampshire Federation of Women's Institutes.
 Dumbarton, N.B.—Health Week.
 Kirkintilloch, N.B.—Health Week.
 Llandudno—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
 Lyme Regis—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
 Burnham-on-Crouch—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
 Cleckheaton—Health Week.
 Douglas Isle of Man Red Cross Society.
 Ramsay
 Felstead—Village Club.

The booking for Doncaster was postponed on account of smallpox.

Small exhibitions without a lecturer have been sent to :—

Dudley.	Darlington.	St. Alban's.
Lincoln.	Hastings.	Exeter.
	Walsall.	

Sections have been sent to :—

Nursing and Midwifery Exhibition; Shoreditch;
 Oldham; Birmingham.

Lectures have been given at Abingdon, St. George's Hall Mission Infant Welfare Centre, Westminster Health Society, Brantham, Inns of Court Mission, St. Martin's Young Mothers' Meeting, Westerham, Castletown, Peel, Port St. Mary (last three arranged during tour of Exhibition in the Isle of Man).

Orders for Exhibits.

The collection and sale of exhibits forms a considerable part of the exhibition work. Time is required in order to assemble these, therefore they cannot be despatched at short notice. The number of orders during the year amounted to 384.

The Tour in Cardiganshire.

One of the most successful tours of the year was arranged by the Public Health Committee of the Cardiganshire County Council when the exhibition visited four different places in the County. The County Superintendent of Health Visitors and

Inspector of Midwives worked indefatigably to make everything a success. At Lampeter it was stated that the exhibition was the one topic of conversation and at the village of Llandyssul about 900 attended during one day. We have since heard that the Maternity and Child Welfare work in the County had been greatly stimulated.

The Tour in the Isle of Man.

The Health Week organised by the Isle of Man Red Cross Society, in which the Travelling Exhibition played a considerable part, met with an immediate response. The exhibition visited Douglas, Ramsay, and lectures on child welfare were arranged at different places in the Island. Within a week of the visit of the exhibition, applications were made to the local Red Cross for assistance to start three Infant Welfare Centres. The organisations in the Island requiring particular information were put in touch with the Societies at Carnegie House.

Exhibition at Orsett.

The arrangements made at Orsett were particularly successful. Special 'buses were hired to convey visitors to the exhibition from thirteen neighbouring villages. The lecturer gave a talk to fathers only which was well attended and much interest was shown, the men asking many questions afterwards.

In several other places arrangements were made for 'buses to bring the school children from the villages during the mornings, when special lectures and demonstrations were arranged for the children.

Extracts from letters received.

The following extracts taken from letters written to the Central Council show the value and success of the Exhibitions.

From His Excellency, SIR CLAUDE HILL, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieut.-Governor of the Isle of Man :—

"I know that, as soon as the Isle of Man Red Cross Society can meet to review the providings of the Health Week, its first care will be to communicate to your Central Council their deep appreciation of the work which you and Miss Dodd did for it. Of all the wonderful work done for us by the different organisations, none was more highly appreciated than that of yourself and Miss Dodd, both in conjunction with your Child Welfare Exhibition and in the course of addresses given by you both in outlying places in the Island. As indicating your success, I may

tell you that two separate demands are being made already for the establishment of Child Welfare Centres (in Ramsay and Castletown), and it is practically certain that a third demand will follow ”

From DR. G. FORD PORTER, Medical Officer of Health, Harwich :—

“ . . . Miss Dodd’s lectures, which were deservedly crowded. Both the lectures and the exhibits were a great success. I should like to thank you for both but especially for sending Miss Dodd down to us. We all found her perfectly charming. What a wonderful gift she has of getting hold of her audience and saying just the right things and in just the right way. I am sure she has done a tremendous lot of good. Nothing was too much trouble and she gave unstintedly. . . . ”

From H. T. ROBERTS, Esq., B.A., Education Secretary, Borough of Kingston-on-Thames :—

“ I am instructed by the Committee to convey to you their appreciation of the arrangements you kindly made for showing the children round the Exhibition and for your lucid and interesting explanations to them of the Exhibition.”

Permanent Exhibition.

The Permanent Exhibition, which is on view daily at Carnegie House, is greatly appreciated by visitors. Arrangements are always made to take visitors round the exhibition or to give information with regard to the cost of buying individual exhibits or the hire of the Travelling Exhibitions. Applications should be made at the Inquiry Bureau.

Visitors from many countries have seen the Permanent Exhibition, including India, Ceylon, Japan, Holland, Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Austria, etc.

Special demonstrations have been given to groups of students from the following :—

Ormond Street Maternity Home, two groups.

College of Nursing, three groups.

Midwives’ Post-Certificate School.

L.C.C. Sunnyhill Road Domestic Science School, 2 groups.

L.C.C. Graystoke Place Day Training College, 2 groups.

Chelsea Physical Training College.

Dame Alice Owen School.

Particulars of the Permanent Exhibition are given in the Report of the Public Museums of Great Britain by Sir Henry Miers, F.R.S., D.Sc., published by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust.

Institute of Infant Welfare Fund.

A grant of £100 per year is given by the Trustees of the Institute of Infant Welfare Fund to the exhibitions. The benefit of this grant is very great. It enables fresh exhibits to be obtained and the constant renewals and cleaning caused by the heavy wear and tear to be undertaken, thus keeping the exhibitions up-to-date and fresh. It has also enabled the appointment of Miss Dixon as a lecturer in addition to the Organiser and Miss Dodd when there is a rush of exhibition work or in the case of sickness. An account of the expenditure of this money is submitted to the Trustees of the Fund for their approval.

We are very greatly indebted to our voluntary workers, Miss Tomlin and Miss Buck, for the help they unsparingly give, and to the Societies which have presented photographs and other material demonstrating their work.

Description of Exhibits.

The following particulars will be of use to those wishing to hire the exhibitions.

The Child Welfare Travelling Exhibitions include the following sections :—

Clothing, including model garments for infants and young children; dolls dressed in miniature; model baby doll, etc.

Ante-Natal Section.

Breast Feeding Section.

Food Section, including menus for young children; vitamin exhibit; production of clean milk.

Care and Cure of Invalid and Cripple Children, including photographs of "before and after" cases; sunlight treatment for T.B. and rickets, etc.; educational work at special schools.

Day Nursery Section, with models of furniture; Montessori and educational apparatus; photographs; work of the Nursery Training Colleges.

Dental exhibit of casts, models, photographs, etc.

Chamber of Horrors—the common dangers and what to avoid.

Literature Stall.

Free Leaflets.

Lantern slides on sunlight, dental care and maternity and child welfare work, etc.

Illustrated posters and panels.

Material for draping the tables is included with the Exhibition but a suitable backing must be provided locally. This must be 5ft. above the top of the tables and sufficiently strong for the hanging of posters, charts, photographs, etc.

Space required.

The Travelling Exhibition requires a minimum of 150ft. in length of table with wall space behind, but in order to display all the exhibits to their full advantage, 200ft. is required. It will thus be seen that a large hall is necessary for the exhibition. It takes one-and-a-half days to arrange the exhibits and half-a-day to pack.

Lecturer.

The arrangement of the exhibits is difficult and exacting. Since each article has its allotted place, an intimate knowledge is required. The complete exhibitions are therefore never sent out without a lecturer in charge. The lectures to mothers, to the general public, to fathers and to school children form a very important branch of the Work of the Travelling Exhibition.

Charges for hire.

The hire of the exhibition, in charge of a lecturer, is :

£17. 17s. 0d. for 1 week;

£10. 10s. 0d. for half a week;

in addition to travelling and transport expenses and hospitality for the lecturer.

Grant from Ministry of Health.

The Exhibition is eligible for a 50 per cent. grant if claimed by the local authority responsible for the maternity and child welfare work of the area.

The charges do not cover the cost of the exhibition. These are reduced to a minimum figure to enable the smaller places to hire the exhibitions.

Transport.

Each exhibition is packed into four large hampers weighing approximately seven hundredweights. These are accepted at a special rate by the railway companies if sent by passenger train in charge of a lecturer. The exhibitions are therefore quickly conveyed from place to place.

All enquiries regarding the Exhibitions should be made to
THE ORGANISER,

Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare,
117, Piccadilly, W.1.

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Hon Secretary : MRS. SHARP, 18, Lemon Street, Truro.
Representative on C.C.I.C.W. : MRS. PETHERICK.

The Cornwall Federation has always to meet the difficulties which beset all organisations in a County such as Cornwall where the work is scattered and communication is difficult. Meetings can of necessity only be held at long intervals, so that the workers in Cornwall do not have the same stimulus as in other more accessible Counties where interchange of ideas is more easily arranged.

The Federation, however, can report a steady progress in routine work and the starting of a new Infant Welfare Centre at Camelford.

HERTFORDSHIRE FEDERATION FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

President : THE MARCHIONESS OF SALISBURY.
Hon. Secretary : MISS HOLDSWORTH.
Representative on Central Council : MRS. JEBB.

The Infant and Child Welfare work in the County has made continued progress. The Medical Officer of Health for the County, when recently speaking at a Voluntary Welfare Centre, said that owing to the very high standard of voluntary work in connection with nursing and maternity and child welfare in Hertfordshire, the County Council was unique in having its work on behalf of public health supplemented in this way to the great advantage of its inhabitants generally. Also, that the number of children who died under the age of twelve months each year during the last few years had averaged 30 compared with 50 for the whole country. Referring to the Orthopaedic Clinics, he said no one knew better than he did the enormous advantage that had accrued to cripples and physically defective children in Hertfordshire in consequence of the establishment of Orthopaedic Clinics.

At a meeting of the County Nursing Association early in the year, it was decided to terminate the agreement made with the Central Council for Hertfordshire to be represented on their Committee.

The Association wishes to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Central Council for their courtesy to their representative.

NORTH WESTERN FEDERATION FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

President and Representative on Central Council: MISS MARGARET BEAVAN,
J.P.

Chairman: DR. J. E. SPENCE, M.O.H. & S.M.O., Eccles.

Hon. Secretary: DR. JESSIE VALENTINE, Assistant M.O. Maternity and Child
Welfare, Rochdale.

The North Western Federation now comprises 122 members representing 41 towns, or rural districts, but there are still a considerable number of towns not represented. During the past year four new towns have sent representatives to the Federation, namely Congleton, Macclesfield, Heywood, and Stockport.

During the past year the Federation has had three very successful meetings: the January meeting at Preston, the June meeting at the Manchester Jewish Fresh Air Home and School, Delamere, and the October meeting at Oldham.

Resignation of Secretary.

At the January meeting, Miss Teale who had been acting Secretary of the Federation since its inception felt bound to resign the position on account of pressure of other work. Her resignation was accepted with great regret, as she had done yeoman service for the Federation, and a vote of thanks was passed to her for the help she has given the Federation.

Dr. Jessie M. Valentine, Rochdale, was appointed to succeed her.

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Miss Margaret Beavan) was again appointed to act as representative of the Federation on the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare.

THE JANUARY MEETING WAS HELD AT PRESTON. Forty-eight members and visitors were present. The delegates visited the North Road Central Child Welfare Clinic—a new well equipped centre, now forming the headquarters of the Child Welfare work in Preston. They then visited the Preston Royal Infirmary and saw the Maternity Wards and the Artificial Sunlight Clinic, one of the best equipped in the North of England. They then proceeded to the Town Hall where they were welcomed by the Mayor, and also by Councillor Mrs. Pimblett, the Chairman of the Health Committee. After the business meeting an interesting paper was read by Dr. Sharpe, the Medical Officer of Health on “The insurance of Midwives’ maternity cases against the payment of doctor’s fees.” In this paper, Dr. Sharpe outlined an insurance scheme whereby

mothers might previously make provision for the payment of a doctor should his services be required in addition to those of the midwife, and whereby County and Borough Councils might lessen the bad debts which accrue to them in these cases.

The paper was followed by a very interesting discussion in which the views of an experienced midwife, and of more than one general practitioner, besides those of the Medical Officer of Health and of the Town Councillor were expressed.

THE JUNE MEETING WAS HELD AT THE MANCHESTER JEWISH FRESH AIR HOME FOR CHILDREN, DELAMERE, and was much enjoyed by all those who were able to attend. Twenty-six delegates attended this meeting, about half of whom were conveyed by charabanc from Manchester. After a short business meeting, Miss Margaret Langdon, the Honorary Secretary of the School, gave an account of the work, aims, and ideals of the school. The school is situated amidst beautiful surroundings on the edge of the Delamere forest in Cheshire and is definitely an open-air school and not a convalescent home. Children of either sex between the ages of six and twelve years are admitted and are recommended by School Medical Officers or the Medical Officer of Health of Manchester or Salford, by Health Visitors, or doctors at the hospitals, but before admission have to be examined by the doctor for the institution. There are 40 beds and the maximum use is made of them. The equipment is simple, but the children are well-fed, get heaps of fresh air and are happily employed all day. There is also an excellent after-care scheme.

The delegates were shown all over the school from the kitchen and pantries to the dormitories and bathrooms, under the able guidance of Miss Langdon and the matron, and saw for themselves the excellent arrangements made for the welfare and happiness of the children. The children themselves were a testimonial to the success of these arrangements.

THE OCTOBER MEETING WAS HELD IN OLDHAM, sixty-two delegates and visitors being present. The delegates visited the new Orthopaedic Centre—a finely equipped centre which has been presented to the Town by a local gentleman at a nominal rent of £10 for the first year, after which time, if it fulfills its purpose, it will be handed over to the Corporation entirely. Delegates also visited the Babies' Nursery at the Oldham Union, which consists of a block of bright, cheerful, suitably decorated and equipped wards, where the children of poor and unfortunate parents are housed and nursed.

The delegates then returned to the Town Hall and held the

business meeting there, followed by a talk by Dr. Wilkinson, Medical Officer of Health for Oldham, on the work done by the Orthopaedic Centre. Dr. Wilkinson pointed out that to get the best results an orthopaedic centre should be carefully organised and equipped, and must have good organisation leading up to it and leading from it. The essentials are :—

- (1) An experienced and specially trained staff including an orthopaedic surgeon, and a nurse-superintendent and masseuse, with special experience in this work.
- (2) Suitable equipment—X-ray apparatus, Artificial Sunlight lamps, and splints of all kinds; and rooms and apparatus for electrical treatment and massage.
- (3) Access to a certain number of beds in a special hospital where cases can be accommodated for long periods, and where children of school age can be educated at the same time as they are receiving treatment.

After Dr. Wilkinson's address, Dr. Graham, the Tuberculosis Officer, showed and explained several radiograms of cases treated at the Centre—photographs taken before, during and after treatment.

The delegates were lastly entertained most royally to tea in the Council Chamber, by the kind invitation of the Mayor, by whom they were officially welcomed. Councillor Miss Lees and the Chairman of the Public Health Committee also welcomed the delegates. This was responded to by Dr. Spence, Chairman of the Federation, who thanked Dr. Wilkinson for his paper, and the Mayor and everyone else concerned for the heartiness of their welcome. This was ably seconded by Miss Teale.

YORKSHIRE FEDERATION FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

President : H.R.H. PRINCESS MARY VISCOUNTESS LASCELLES.

Vice-Presidents :

ROBINIA, VISCOUNTESS MOUNTGARRET,	MRS. CURREN-BRIGGS, M.B.E.
MRS. EDWIN GRAY, J.P. O.B.E.	MRS. EDWARD SHAW, O.B.E., J.P.
MRS. E. KITSON-CLARK.	DR. LAURA VEALE.

DR. J. R. KAYE, D.P.H., Ch.B.

Chairman of Executive Committee : MAJOR SIR ROBERT L. BOWER,
K.B.E., C.M.G.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : MISS STAINTHORP, M.B.E.

Organising Secretary for West Riding : MISS MARGARET E. RICHARDS.

Office : THE RED CROSS OFFICE, NORTHALLERTON.

The chief activities of the above Federation during 1927 has been the question of establishing a Home for Mothers and Babies, of which there is a real need in Yorkshire. A small

Sub-Committee—with Mrs. Kitson Clark as Chairman—has been set up to launch an Appeal throughout the County. Already many promises of help and subscriptions have been received, and it is hoped that during the coming year it will be possible either to purchase a suitable house near the sea, or if sufficient money is raised the Committee prefer to build a Home to meet the special needs, where tired Mothers may go and have their Babies with them during convalescence.

The Executive Committee have also considered the provision of a Caravan to be used as a Travelling Exhibition and on a Travelling Clinic in rural areas, but owing to the shortage of money the scheme has been temporarily abandoned.

The Committee have considered the new "Adoption of Children" Act and have been in communication with other Societies dealing with Infant and Child Welfare work, but they are taking no action until further information on the subject has been obtained.

The Yorkshire Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoorside, (which is the property of the Federation) now numbers 106 children and 43 Staff, which includes a Resident Surgeon, House Surgeon, Matron, Assistant Matron and 4 School Teachers. Although the Hospital has only been open for three years many cases have been permanently cured and wonderful results achieved in many others. The Hospital is now in a sound financial position—due to a large extent to the great generosity of the Yorkshire people.

The amount received for subscriptions during the year was £26. 13s. 0d. and the payments £4. 2s. 6d., leaving a credit balance of £22 10s. 6d.

ASSOCIATION OF INFANT WELFARE AND MATERNITY CENTRES.

Chairman : DR. ERIC PRITCHARD.

Vice-Chairmen : THE LORD MAYOR OF LIVERPOOL (Miss Margaret Beavan),
MISS E. BUNTING, MRS. DUNCAN HARRIS, PROF. H. R. KENWOOD.

Hon. Secretaries : MISS J. HALFORD, O.B.E., and DR. FLORA SHEPHERD.

Offices : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1140.

At no time in the history of the Association has the growth in membership been so slow as during the year under review. Only seventeen Centres, including three Military Centres, two of which are in India, and one Federation of seven voluntary Centres, applied for membership, and were admitted, bringing

the total number exactly up to 1,200. This slowing up might simply be considered to be in the nature of things, if it were not that the number represents not quite half the existing Centres, showing that there are still many which might help to consolidate the movement to their own advantage and that of the Association. Most of the affiliated Centres keep in constant touch with headquarters, consulting it in every imaginable difficulty that may crop up, or about new developments they may wish to introduce. In this way many have been led during the past year to set up Mothers' Libraries, Fathers' Councils, Toddlers' Playgrounds or Playrooms, Ante-natal Clinics (it is sad that the number of these should still lag so far behind that of the Post-natal Centres), Sunlight and Dental Clinics (now both rapidly increasing in number), Provident Clubs, Mothercraft Classes, etc. The salaries, holidays and insurance of their workers, suitable toys, equipment, methods of record-keeping, lecturers, or speakers at annual meetings, provision of convalescent treatment for mothers and young children, emergency homes for babies, patterns of every conceivable garment, these and many others are among the requirements which the central office is expected to be able to meet.

During the year the Association has carried out two important investigations, the results of which have both been published in "National Health." With a view to encouraging the setting up of artificial sunlight clinics and of dental clinics for mothers and young children in attendance at Infant Welfare Centres, an enquiry was made, based on a carefully drawn-up questionnaire in each case, which was issued to all Centres at which such Clinics were at work. The results of this action were distinctly encouraging and have proved most useful, more especially since enquiries are constantly received at headquarters as to the cost of establishing these clinics, the scale of fees charged to the parents, the equipment required, etc. Information on all these points is now to be found in "National Health," carefully collated by Dr. Muriel Radford, in the case of the Sunlight Clinics,* and by Mr. Peyton Baly, in the case of the Dental Clinics.† To these two colleagues we desire to express our grateful thanks for their valuable help.

Education in Mothercraft is a subject which the Association always endeavours to keep to the fore, believing that the medical inspection and weighing of babies, providing foods cheaply, and similar services, are by no means the be-all and end-all of

* "National Health," July 1927.

† "National Health," November 1927

infant welfare work. It was therefore arranged to discuss "The Practical Teaching of Mothercraft" at the Annual Council meeting held during the National Conference on Maternity and Infant Welfare. Dr. Mabel Brodie's excellent paper was much appreciated, and it was followed by a good discussion, both fully reproduced in the report of the Conference.†

The literature which the Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres prepares for publication by the National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare is so much in request that the time of the Editorial Committee has been largely occupied by the revision of existing pamphlets and leaflets, rather than the preparation of new ones. Several months are required, for instance, before the new edition of "To Mothers and Fathers," which is annually issued, meets with the approval of the many specialists who are consulted thereon, but the work put into it is amply repaid by the ever-enhanced reputation of this little book. By the beginning of 1928 its circulation will have exceeded half a million copies.

There appears to be need for revision and standardising of record-keeping methods adopted at Centres, some of which are of a very incomplete nature. The various case-papers prepared and stocked by the Association have therefore been referred to the Maternity and Child Welfare group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, which is also taking into consideration the model forms suggested by the Ministry of Health.

A new leaflet on "The Home Help at a Maternity Case" was published during the year, and a free specimen copy will gladly be forwarded on application. Full information with regard to the training, salaries and employment of Home Helps can also be obtained from headquarters. A new edition of the popular certificate for award to mothers who attend their Centres regularly, and the text of a lecture on clothing have been added to the list of publications issued by the Association.

Ever since the National League was obliged to give up its Mothers' Convalescent Home at Woolwich, owing to a great increase in the rent when the lease ran out, it has only occasionally had such a Home, when a suitable furnished house has been lent for the purpose. And yet there is great need of such a Home, judging by the constant request for beds that reach headquarters. Early in 1927 a sympathiser was good enough to offer the League the free use of a very suitable freehold site

† Report of the National Conference on Maternity and Infant Welfare, London, 1927. Price 2/6 post free.

at Littlestone-on-Sea, on condition that a small Convalescent Home for Mothers and babies and possibly also toddlers, was erected on it. The problem was how to find the money for building, £3,000 at least being required. Assuming that 240,000 out of the 350,000 mothers now attending Centres in the United Kingdom might feel inclined to give $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per month for a year with this object in view, an appeal was issued to all the Centres, many of whom responded nobly. But by the end of the year, only £156 had been collected for the "Farthing Home," as it became known, and unless the Centres contribute more generally and more quickly in future, it is doubtful if the scheme will materialise, for one cannot expect the owner of the site to wait indefinitely.

The entries for the National Mothercraft Competitions were as numerous as ever, and the standard was even higher than before. Last year the Trinity Road Centre (Birmingham) carried the Shield away from London, which has nearly always held it since 1913, when the Competitions were inaugurated. In 1927 it was a rural Centre, competing for the first time, that carried all before it, securing an Honours Certificate in each of the six classes for which it entered and thereby winning the much coveted Shield. There was great excitement when it was announced that the Shield had been awarded to the Kimberley (Nottingham) Centre, thus showing, for the first time, that a rural Centre has just as good a chance of securing the Shield as any urban one.

The English Rhondda Mothercraft Challenge Shield for mothers attending Centres was won by the South West Ham Infant Welfare Centre. The Scottish Shield was, as usual, secured by an Aberdeen Centre, and the Irish Shield was won by the Ringsend Infant Welfare Centre, Dublin.

The Rhondda Challenge Shield for Elementary schoolgirls was more popular than ever, and the Shield was awarded to the Westbury Girls' School, Barking, in respect of Nancy King's paper. There were again no competitors from Secondary Schools.

Quite a number of Centres also test the knowledge of their members by means of the non-competitive Examinations held every year. Some mothers have entered for these for four years in succession, thereby gaining Elementary, Advanced, Honours and Double Honours Certificates.

The register of work offered and of volunteers available, published monthly in "National Health," has proved most useful,

and many a Centre has in this way secured valuable help. Unfortunately, the supply of helpers is still not equal to the demand, for although 68 helpers were put in touch with likely jobs, not all of them proved suitable for the 38 vacancies reported.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE CARE OF CRIPPLES.

FOUNDED 1919.

Office : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

Telephone : Grosvenor 2929.

Hon. President : SIR ROBERT JONES, BART., K.C.B., F.R.C.S.

Chairman (1928) : THE HON. LADY LAWRENCE.

Vice-Chairman (1928) : A. H. WOOD, ESQ., C.B.

Hon. Treasurer : COLONEL GORE BROWN, D.S.O.

Secretary : MISS M. D. MILLER, M.A.

List of Council, etc.

During the past year the Central Council for the Care of Cripples has, after much careful consideration, adopted a new Constitution and established its membership on a somewhat different basis. In addition to elected members it now has a large number representative both of national societies whose work closely touches its own, and of local organisations at work for cripples throughout the country.

The Council received with the greatest regret the resignation of Sir Robert Jones from the Chairmanship of the Council, a position which he has held since its formation in 1919. It is however very glad that he has consented to become its first Honorary President.

At the Annual General Meeting in March 1928, the Hon. Lady Lawrence was elected Chairman of the Council for the coming year, and Mr. A. H. Wood, Vice-Chairman. Mr. Wood has also been elected Chairman of the Executive Committee, that Committee having accepted with great regret the resignation of Lady Lawrence from that position. Colonel Gore-Browne has kindly consented to become Hon. Treasurer.

The Council has taken the opportunity afforded by the adoption of its new Constitution to restate as follows its aims and objects.

These are as follows :—

- (a) To promote and support measures for the early discovery and prompt and efficient treatment of children who would otherwise become cripples.

- (b) To promote schemes for the education, treatment, training, employment and general welfare of cripples.
- (c) To encourage the formation of Local Associations to carry out these objects.
- (d) To investigate the causes of crippling and to promote and support measures for their elimination.
- (e) To act as a central co-ordinating body for all organisations (voluntary and official) working for the benefit of cripples; to keep in touch with Government Departments, in particular with the Ministry of Health, the Board of Education, and the Ministry of Labour; and to provide a central bureau of information on all matters which concern the welfare of cripples.

The Council is specially anxious to develop the work of the Local Associations in the country, either through the formation of such an Association where none as yet exists, or, as has been done in several cases, through the extension of the scope of the work of an existing Association.

It is being increasingly consulted on all questions affecting work for cripples, both by agencies anxious to inaugurate or develop their work, and by societies and individuals who wish for information about work already being done.

It is also glad to report a considerable increase in the work being done by local organisations. A new central orthopaedic hospital has been built and opened at Exeter, and a system of district clinics is being worked in connexion with it. At Bristol and Nottingham sites have been obtained, and building is beginning for central orthopaedic hospitals. The Lancashire County Council has re-opened the orthopaedic hospital at Biddulph, and extensions are being made at Combe Park, Bath, and at Manfield, Northampton. A number of new clinics have been opened, and in several cases increased accommodation and special new buildings have been found necessary for existing work. A new scheme for the vocational training of cripples has been started in connexion with the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, and numbers of students are already in training.

Meetings of the Council.

Two meetings of the reconstituted Council have been held, at both of which interesting discussions have taken place, one on the future work of the Central Council from the point of view of (1) "Training of Cripples" and (2) "Organisation of local Girdlestone" and the second on "The Relation of the Central

work for Cripples" (opened by Dame Agnes Hunt and Mr. Council to Local Associations," (opened by Mr. Elmslie and Mr. Malkin of Nottingham.)

Conferences.

Two conferences have been held. One was arranged, in conjunction with the Invalid Children's Aid Association, for orthopaedic surgeons, heads of physical treatment departments, and almoners, to discuss the possibility of co-operation in orthopaedic treatment in London. At this the speakers were Mr. Elmslie and Dr. Mennell, and Miss Cummins.

The second was confined to members of the Central Council actually representing local work, and took the form of a discussion on the organisation of preventive and after-care clinics and their relation to Public Authorities. Dr. Butterworth (County Medical Officer of Health for Lancashire) spoke from experience of clinics run entirely by a Public Authority, and Miss Kirby of the Hertfordshire British Red Cross Society, from that of clinics managed by a voluntary association. The discussion was very practical and helpful.

Course for Teachers in Special Schools.

The organisation of a short course for teachers in hospital, special, and open-air schools was again undertaken by the Council, (through its Education sub-Committee) at the request of the Board of Education. The course was, as before, extremely successful. There was keen competition for the forty places available, and the students were enthusiastic in their appreciation of the arrangements made.

A further course is being arranged for September, 1928.

Cripples' Journal.

The Council has decided after careful consideration and with the full concurrence of the Hon. Editor, Mr. Watson, to give up its official responsibility for the issue of the Cripples' Journal. It is the intention of Mr. Watson to carry on the Journal on more international lines, and the Council will still be in close touch with it, and is anxious that all who are interested should continue to support it. The Council is most grateful to the Hon. Editor for his invaluable work while the Journal has been its official organ, and hopes that the number of subscribers will become still greater, and that all those who at present subscribe to the Journal will continue to do so.

Individual Cases and Enquiries.

A large number of enquiries have reached the Council with respect to individual cases. These have come from Boards of Guardians, Education Committees, Hospital Almoners, Guilds of Help, etc., or private individuals asking for help and advice in dealing with different cases, and the Case sub-Committee is always glad to do anything it can to be of assistance. The Council realises that with the development throughout the country of really comprehensive schemes of assistance for cripples many of these cases will be dealt with much more satisfactorily at an earlier stage. For the time being, however, it is obviously necessary for the Council to be ready to do a certain amount of this kind of work. In no instance are the General Funds of the Council used for this purpose, as on the very rare occasions on which the Case Committee has felt compelled to undertake the actual responsibility for a case special grants from suitable societies or persons interested have been procured.

INCORPORATED MIDWIVES' INSTITUTE.

FOUNDED 1881.

INCORPORATED 1889.

The Association of Certified Midwives and Trained Nurses' Club.

OBJECTS.

1. To raise the efficiency and improve the status of midwives.
2. To establish a centre of information for the public.
3. To provide a good medical lending library and club-room for friendly meetings.
4. To arrange courses of medical lectures and to afford opportunities for discussion on subjects connected with the profession.
5. The doing of all things necessary to promote the efficiency, comfort and development of midwives.

President : MISS RAMSDEN.

Trustee : W. G. DUNCAN, ESQ.

Treasurer : MISS ROSALIND PAGET.

Assistant Treasurer : MRS. BRUCE RICHMOND.

Representatives on the Central Midwives' Board :

DR. FAIRBAIRN.

MISS POLLARD.

MISS DOUBLEDAY.

Assistant Hon. Secretaries :

Defence and Protection : MISS WAKEMAN.

Library : MISS MARY TOYNBEE.

Secretary : MISS EDITH SIMPSON.

Offices : 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.2.

Telephone : Gerrard 1184.

The Institute has entered its 47th year since foundation and 39th since incorporation.

Under the Midwives' Acts 1902 and 1918, the Central Midwives' Board is the governing authority for all Midwives in England and Wales. The Midwives' Institute nominates three members of this Board as its representatives, one medical practitioner and two midwives.

The Midwives' Institute works hard to encourage in every way Post Certificate Instruction for Midwives in practice.

1 Post Certificate Scholarship and 5 Teacher's Scholarships were awarded in 1927.

Midwives have been encouraged to ask their authorities for such instruction, and many cases, with satisfactory results, and in other cases the affiliated Associations have themselves organised courses of Post Certificate instruction for their members.

There have been Post Certificate lectures given at the Institute for Teachers of Midwifery, and in the Autumn the second examination for Teachers was held and a Diploma granted to six successful candidates.

The Defence and Protection Committee (affiliated to the Institute) continue to do very useful work. The Associations were feeling the need of such help and their members can now join on becoming Members of the Institute at a reduced fee.

The Rainy Day Benevolent Fund to help members in temporary trouble is growing and is much appreciated as well as often needed.

In 1924 the Institute published a small book "Papers for Practising Midwives"; in 1925 "The Midwife in Practice"; in 1926 "The Midwives' Guide to the College of Surgeons' Museum", and in 1927 "Lectures on the Teaching of Midwifery." These and the visits to help the Midwives in the country were made a possibility by the gift of the Central Council in 1920. This money is now spent but has been of the greatest use in helping the Institute to undertake work for the improvement, organisation and instruction of Midwives that could not otherwise have been financed.

Midwives who live too far away to benefit by the social and professional life of the Club still feel the advantage of belonging to an Institute where their interests are the first consideration, and the fact that they belong to a body to which they have a right to apply for help and advice in professional difficulties strengthens that feeling of *esprit de corps* so necessary to the well-being of isolated workers.

The Institute watches over the interests of the certified midwife politically, municipally, socially and educationally. It is

managed by midwives for midwives, and is a self-governing body of professional women.

"Nursing Notes and Midwives' Chronicle (3d. a month, 4d. post free) is the organ of the Midwives' Institute, and publishes each month full information on matters of importance to certified midwives, especially in regard to their practice and the various Acts of Parliament which affect them. Reports of the Central Midwives' Board are published each month, also reports of the Midwives' Institute and its Affiliated Associations, with frequent reports of the Post-Certificate School, of the General Lying-in Hospital, and the Overseas Nursing Association.

INVALID CHILDREN'S AID ASSOCIATION.

FOUNDED 1888.

INCORPORATED 1907.

Patron :

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President and Chairman of Council :

THE MOST HON. THE MARQUIS OF ABERDEEN AND TEMAIR,
K.T., G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.

Executive Committee :

Chairman : SIR CHARTERS SYMONDS, K.B.E., C.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.

Vice-Chairman : SIR ALFRED FRIPP, K.C.V.O., C.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.

Hon. Treasurers : HON. VISCOUNT BURNHAM, G.C.M.G.

MISS BROADBENT.

Hon. Medical Officers : WALTER EDMUNDS, ESQ., F.R.C.S.

J. HOWELL EVANS, ESQ., M.D., M.Ch., F.R.C.S.

Secretary : MRS. MUNRO.

Golden Book Secretary : THE HON. LADY KEPPEL.

The most important event that took place in the Invalid Children's Aid Association during 1927 was the opening in May of the new Heart Home at West Wickham. The official opening actually took place in October, but the first children were received in the Home in the before mentioned month. Thanks to the generosity of the public spirited supporters the Open Air Wards have been built and the total number of beds in the Home is now 85.

The next outstanding incident of importance is the development which has taken place in the formation of a new Branch at Lewisham. This absorbed the work in the districts of Bromley, Bellingham Estate, Forest Hill and Sydenham. The Branch actually started work on April 2nd. The work was increasing to such an extent (224 new cases being registered in 1927) that it was considered vital to decentralise the work. It is hoped that a new Branch may be started in Bermondsey during

1928. A sub-Committee has been working in the area and the work is increasing so greatly that as a district the area is becoming unwieldy. The new L.C.C. estates in Extra Metropolitan Areas have been receiving much attention from the Association. As far as possible invalid children are being cared for in Dagenham, Becontree and Burnt Oak. The distance from Hospitals and transport difficulties are, of course, great obstacles. There has been a great increase, nearly 300 cases, in the work of Extra Metropolitan districts and also a very large number of letters from country districts asking for advice and help. The I.C.A.A. has continued to work in close co-operation with the Central Council for the Care of Cripples in all matters relating to cripples under 16 years of age.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that the co-operation with the L.C.C. has continued to be extremely close throughout the year. The I.C.A.A. again sent away 155 children under the scheme under which healthy children, exposed to tubercular infections in their own homes, are boarded out under supervision until such time as it is considered safe for them to return to London. The other various activities in connection with the L.C.C. have also continued, namely: grants for the provision of clothing, and also administration of the fund to help the parents with the cost of instruments for children crippled by surgical tuberculosis. In addition, though the I.C.A.A. does not send away London children suffering from active tuberculosis, it still undertakes home visiting and After Care of such children, and also collects parents' payments for children sent away by the L.C.C. as cases of poliomyelitis. The I.C.A.A. has also undertaken to visit children suffering from rheumatism who are waiting for beds under the L.C.C. Scheme.

The total number of cases referred to the Association by the Metropolitan Asylums Board was 609. The work has shown satisfactory progress but there is always the old question of bad housing, especially as these children have all been chargeable to the Guardians and usually come from very poor homes.

With regard to the I.C.A.A. work with Sir Henry Gauvain, close touch has been kept with the Alton Out-Patients at the Farringdon Dispensary. The I.C.A.A. representative is always present at inspections.

The Physically Defective Schools sub-Committee continues to act as a link between the L.C.C. and the I.C.A.A. on all questions relating to care work in schools of physically defective children. The I.C.A.A. has tried during the year to obtain representatives on every P.D. School Care Committee. This sub-

Committee also arranged a course of Lectures during the Autumn which were very well attended and much appreciated :

"Care of Surgical Appliances," A. Eastgate, Esq.

"Diseases of the Eye," H. L. Eason, Esq., C.B., C.M.G.,
M.D., M.S.

"Enlarged Tonsils, Diseases of the Ear," T. B. Layton, Esq.,
D.S.O., M.S., F.R.C.S.

"Asthma, Fibrosis and Bronchiectasis," R. A. Young, Esq.,
C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.

"Diseases of the Skin," H. W. Barber, Esq., B.Ch., F.R.C.P.

The Annual Meeting was held at Seaford House by kind permission of Lord and Lady Howard de Walden on Tuesday, 17th May. The Chair was taken by the Rt. Hon. Viscount Burnham who laid stress on the excellent pioneer work done by the Association in the prevention of permanent disease and crippling amongst children. Sir Thomas Barlow gave an interesting sketch of the growth of the Association, while Miss Hansell drew a vivid picture of the work of a Branch Secretary. The Rev. Canon Woodward and Miss Gladys Cooper called upon the public to support the Association by means of subscriptions and voluntary services.

There have been three Council Meetings during the year. The first on the 15th July had for its subject "Development in the Accommodation for Heart and Rheumatism." Dr. Thomas (L.C.C.) spoke on the existing and future facilities for treatment by the L.C.C., while Sir Alfred Fripp detailed the treatment at the I.C.A.A. Home at West Wickham. Dr. Layton's Lecture "Enlarged Tonsils, Diseases of the Ear" took the place of the second Council Meeting. The third Meeting was held on March 16, 1928, the subject being "Further Ways in which the I.C.A.A. can Help Children Under 5." Dr. David Forsyth took the Chair and Miss Barcroft spoke on the I.C.A.A. work for children under 5, and Miss Salisbury on behalf of the Liverpool Child Welfare Association. Miss Popert (Vincent Square Hospital) spoke from the point of view of an Almoner and Dr. Annis (Greenwich) from the point of view of a Medical Officer of Health. The Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills and Miss Halford spoke from the point of view of those actually engaged with Convalescent Homes for children under 5.

The matter of Inspection of Homes has been fully developed during 1927. Twenty-five new Homes have been added to the Association's list of approved Homes and Boarding Out Centres which now number 196. It is becoming more and more evident to managers of Homes that education and occupation are essential during long periods of convalescence and now

twenty-four of the Homes on the I.C.A.A. list are certified under the Board of Education apart from the seven I.C.A.A. Homes.

In 1927 the income was £84,654. 19s. 11½d. of which the parents contributed £15,065. 14s. 6d. The Expenditure was £84,409. 3s. 7d. of which £28,104. 2s. 2d. was spent on providing convalescence and £14,856. 10s. 5d. in maintaining I.C.A.A. special Homes. In 1926 there were 11,019 new cases while in 1927 the number was 11,804. Current cases increased from 48,959 in 1926 to 52,710 in 1927. 7,341 children were sent away in 1927 and 2,083 children were supplied with surgical instruments, boots, crutches, and spinal carriages.

The London Central Spectacles Committee have to report that the provision of spectacles in London for elementary school children has been well maintained. Parents have paid up well and the local Committees are able to deal with all cases applying for assistance. During the year 1927, 28,726 spectacles were ordered, and 26,086, i.e., 91 per cent, are known to have been obtained. This is very satisfactory as it is the highest percentage recorded since the London Central Spectacles Committee was reconstituted in 1921. Nineteen out of the twenty-three local Committees were again self-supporting.

THE MOTHERCRAFT TRAINING SOCIETY.

FOUNDED 1918 by SIR FREDERICK TRUBY KING, C.M.G.

Cromwell House, Highgate Hill, N.6.

Telephone : Mountview 2100.

President : H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF YORK.

Patroness : H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE DUCHESS OF ARGYLL.

Chairman of Executive Committee : LADY GALWAY.

Hon. Treasurer : E. R. PEACOCK, ESQ.

Hon. Consulting Physician : DR. J. S. FAIRBAIRN, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.

Hon. Medical Director : DR. R. C. JEWESBURY, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Matron : MISS M. LIDDIARD.

Secretary : MISS AGATHA HAVARD.

A great event has just occurred at the end of the Society's third year at Cromwell House, and the tenth year of its life as a Society, in the visit to England of its Founder, Sir Frederick Truby King, C.M.G. A special Reception was given at Cromwell House, in his honour, by Lady Galway and the members of the Executive Committee on March 29, to which all ex-students were invited. About 200 visitors were present on this occasion, the majority being old students, many of whom had travelled

from far to have the privilege of meeting Sir Truby King. Sir Truby spoke for about an hour, giving a short history of the beginning and growth of the work in New Zealand, covering a period of nearly 21 years, and shewing that what was looked upon at first with suspicion and distrust has come now to be the uniform system of infant feeding and care throughout the Dominion.

From New Zealand, Sir Truby went on to speak of his visit to England in 1918, when he came at the request of Lord and Lady Plunket and a small Committee, for about eighteen months, to start a small Hospital and Training School at Earl's Court. Cromwell House tells what that small beginning has grown to be, and Sir Truby congratulated all, who have helped to make the past progress possible, and at the same time emphasised the need for untiring effort in going forward.

Early in the year, the Hon. Mrs. Alexander Hardinge and her Committee decided to make a Special Appeal for £25,000 to build the much-needed Hostel and Lecture Hall for Students, and wing for Mothers and Babies. In connection with this Appeal, a Ball was held at Claridge's Hotel in December, when H.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of York honoured the Society by being present, and was a great success in every way. The Committee have recently felt justified in asking Messrs. Richardson and Gill to draw up plans for the new buildings, and it is hoped that, if donations continue to come in, it may be possible to lay the foundation stone in the near future.

The Annual Meeting was held at Cromwell House on July 4, the Chairman, Lady Galway, presiding. After the Business Meeting was over, tea was served in the Out-Patient Department, and the Nurseries were thrown open to the visitors.

"Pound Day", which has now become an annual event, was held on November 17, and the Hon. Mrs. James Borthwick, who has been a staunch supporter of the work since its beginning, very kindly came to receive the gifts. These were as usual most generous.

A Refresher Course for fully-trained Nurses and Midwives, who had also taken the M.T.S. Training, was held from December 6—9. This was very well attended, and was so much appreciated that it is hoped it may be found possible to arrange for such a course every year, so that ex-students may be kept in close touch with the work at Headquarters.

Dr. Creaser held an inspection of the Hospital in November on behalf of the Ministry of Health, and met Dr. R. C. Jewesbury, the Hon. Medical Director, and Dr. Murray Levick, who kindly supervises the Sunlight treatment given at Cromwell House.

A few figures may be of interest as indicating the progress made during the past year:—

				1925-6	1926-27	1927-28.
<i>Out-Patients.</i>						
Attendances	...	...	...	4661	5324	8145
New Cases	...	...	...	934	1115	1564
Mothers for the day for Test Weighing				356	446	506
Names on Books	...	...		1320	1592	2150
Number of Clinics	...	...		155	154	251
<i>In-Patients.</i>						
Mothers	...	...	...	54	54	58
Babies	...	...	...	117	133	150
<i>Average Length of Stay in Hospital during Past Year.</i>						
Mothers with Babies—25.7 days.						
Babies—37.8 days.						
10 Babies over 90 days.						
<i>Breast-feeding Cases.</i>						
Fully re-established—31.						
Partially established—18.						
Failures—3.						
Resident Normal Babies—6.						
<i>Note.</i> —Of the Out-Patients for the past year—						
463 were partially breast-fed				} 75 per cent of those seen for the first time under 9 months.		
697 were fully breast-fed						
356 were artificially fed.						
634 were over 9 months old on their first visit.						
<i>Artificial Sunlight.</i>						
Babies treated—54.						
Number of Treatments—955.						
Mothers Treated—20.						
Number of Treatments—288.						

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY.

Under the Patronage of Their Majesties King George V and Queen Mary.

President:

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE VISCOUNT ASTOR.

Chairman: DR. G. F. STILL.

Vice-Chairman: DR. HAROLD SCURFIELD.

Hon. Secretaries: DR. A. K. CHALMERS.

DR. ERIC PRITCHARD.

MISS J. HALFORD, O.B.E.

Offices: Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

Telephone: Grosvenor 1140.

The work of the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality has continued steadily throughout the year, maintaining generally its usual trend. All new legislation affecting mothers and children under five years of age was carefully studied, several series of lectures were organised, the annual Conference was carried through with its usual success and several special subjects were discussed and appropriate action taken. The following is a summary of the work accomplished.

From 1914 onwards, when the want of systematic post-graduate and other instruction for those who are engaged in child welfare work first made itself felt, the Association has taken the lead in providing such instruction. It does not, however, aim at the complete training of health workers, there being an adequate number of well equipped institutions for that purpose. But for the young worker in the field, for the volunteer desirous of acquiring theoretical knowledge in addition to the practical experience she gains by helping at Infant Welfare Centres, Day Nurseries and similar institutions, as well as for the worker trained many years ago, who desires to bring her knowledge up-to-date, the short courses of lectures organised by the Association have proved very acceptable. In the past, these courses have been provided in the Provinces, at the request of Local Authorities, as well as in London, but latterly more and more Local Authorities have organised their own courses, and the Association has tended to restrict its lecture activities to the Metropolis.

During the year under review, three kinds of lectures have been provided :—

(1) Three series of 10 lectures, each by a different expert on the subjects dealt with, intended for health visitors, nurses, midwives and others, who find refresher courses of this kind almost indispensable if they are to keep pace with the latest developments of the child welfare movement.

(2) Three series of 10 lectures, two of an elementary and one of an advanced nature, for students in training at Day Nurseries, Crèches, Resident Homes for Babies, etc. These are in preparation for the Crèche Workers' Certificate issued jointly by the Association and the National Society of Day Nurseries. This is now so highly valued, that there is hardly an institution of the kind mentioned above, both in London and the Provinces, that does not prepare its students for the examinations, which are held every three months at Carnegie House and at local centres. When these courses were first instituted in 1919 many resident institutions were satisfied to issue their own certificates, but since there was then no standard set, it was obvious that such certificates could be of comparatively little value. During 1927, no fewer than 707 girls entered for the examinations, of whom 119 failed to satisfy the examiners.

(3) Two series of six lectures each were given, as an experiment, for educated parents, on the hygiene of married life. For such excellent lectures as these proved to be, the audiences should have been larger, but it is well known that this class is

particularly difficult to reach, not being organised as is the working class. But the audiences made up for the deficiency in numbers by their keenness and interest, and on this account the courses may be considered to have justified themselves.

Much good work has been done in respect of boarded-out children since the Infant Life Protection Act, 1897, was merged in the Children Act 1908. The Association still desires to see the supervision of these boarded-out children transferred from the Poor Law to the Public Health Authorities, and all barrack schools done away with in favour of cottage homes, or the foster-mother system of dealing with those who have no suitable homes of their own.

Some considerable amount of time was devoted to a study of the position of the boarded-out child for whom a lump sum has been paid, and the following resolutions were passed in connection with this matter :—

“That in cases where a lump sum for boarded-out children was paid, the foster-mother be required to disclose the amount and method of payment received for a child, on request by the Local Authority, with penalties for refusal to do so.”

“That in Part 1, Section 10, of the Children Act, 1908, for ‘Guardians of the Poor Law Union,’ the words ‘Sanitary Authorities’ should be substituted, and that under Part 1, Section 1, it would be desirable to provide for the *licensing* of foster-parents instead of *registration* as at present.”

The beautiful Hall of the British Medical Association House was selected this year as the meeting place of the annual Conference of Local Health Authorities, Poor Law Guardians and Voluntary Agencies, which has hitherto nearly always met at Caxton Hall. Over 600 delegates were present, and the interest in the proceedings was as well-sustained throughout as usual. For the first time, the Maternity and Child Welfare group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health took an active part in the proceedings, both the third day’s sessions being organised by that body. Other special sessions were organised by the Association’s sister Societies, and all proved most stimulating and interesting. The Hastings Hall at the British Medical Association House lent itself admirably to the display of the Child Welfare Exhibition of the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, which aroused great interest, and a film display, organised by the National Baby Week Council, at which seven films of special interest to Child Welfare workers were shown, attracted a large audience throughout the performance, which lasted three hours.

The proceedings of the Conference were subsequently published in the form of a book of 218 pages, price 2/6, post free, from headquarters.

The Association has for many years been fully alive to the necessity for reducing the present excessive death rate among mothers as a result of childbirth. It was also one of the first to realise the importance and the value of ante-natal work, which was constantly brought to the fore by one of its Committee members, the late Dr. Amand Routh, whose death this year is recorded with much regret. Propaganda work, by ventilating the subject of maternal mortality at the Annual Conference, in the series of lectures organised by the Association, and by the encouragement of the holding of post-graduate or refresher courses for midwives, plays its part in this campaign, but the solution of the problem has still to be sought in other directions, too, and these are being explored.

NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL.

Chairman of Executive Committee: ERIC PRITCHARD, ESQ., M.A., M.D.,
F.R.C.P.

Joint Honorary Secretaries: MRS. SOPHIA SEEKINGS FRIEL, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.
C. T. MAITLAND, ESQ., M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Joint Honorary Treasurers: MAJOR C. P. LOVELOCK, M.B.E., T.D.
MRS. JOHN WOODS.

Secretary: MISS NORAH MARCH, B.Sc.

Office: Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

Telephone: Grosvenor 1213.

The eleventh year of the National Baby Week Council's work was one of continual activity—the demands for the Council's services steadily increasing during the year. Some indication of this is seen in the fact that the number of local Baby Weeks, Health and Baby Weeks, Baby Days, Baby Competitions and similar propaganda activities assisted by the Council during the twelve months under survey reached a total of approximately 600. This local work of the Council is a side to be considered in addition to its work of general and national propaganda.

When the Council first came into existence it was concerned with the general maternity and child welfare question. Once public opinion had been cultivated in support of that movement as a whole, it became the task of the Council to select each year certain aspects of the problem which called for special attention and to give them special emphasis. Acting upon this principle the Executive Committee during 1927 selected the following three subjects:—

- (a) Atmospheric Pollution in Relation to Maternity and Child Welfare.
- (b) The Development of Dental Clinics and of Dental Care for Mothers and for Children under Five.
- (c) The Home in Relation to Maternity and Child Welfare.

These three subjects received attention throughout the whole campaign and one of them—sunlight treatment—received special comment from Her Majesty the Queen, the Patron of the Council, in her gracious message of encouragement and goodwill received just prior to National Baby Week. The general press paid special attention to the question of sunlight while the health and medical press gave their support very heartily to the matter of dental care.

The Astor Challenge Shield which is awarded annually for the best local Baby Week campaign conducted in the larger areas was won for the third year in succession by the Northampton Local Baby Week Committee and the shield thus became the permanent property of the Northampton Maternity and Infant Welfare Voluntary Association. To Leicester Health and Baby Week Committee fell the honour of securing second place in order of merit for which it was awarded a special trophy (a "Save the Babies" plaque). The William Hardy Challenge Shield which is for annual competition among the smaller areas was won by the Cambridgeshire Federation of Women's Institutes, which conducted a highly successful series of Health and Baby Days run consecutively in certain villages throughout the county. A William Hardy Banner was awarded to the Langley (Worcs.) Infant Welfare Centre and Certificates of Merit to the local Baby Week Committees of Kettering U.D.C., Kingston-on-Thames, Sunderland County Borough, Lymington (Hants), Bungay (Suffolk), Havant and Bedhampton, Little Coates (Lincs.), and East and West Molesey.

The Imperial Baby Week Challenge Shield, donated to the Council by the *News of the World* in 1926, had a distinct effect in the promotion of local Baby Weeks in various parts of the Empire, outside the British Isles and thus stimulated the spread of the Baby Week movement overseas. The Shield for 1926/27 the first years of its award, was won by the Health and Baby Week Committee of the Bellary Municipality, Madras Presidency, South India. Certificates of Merit were awarded to the local Baby Week Committees of Calgary, Canada; St. John's, Newfoundland; Simla, India; Kurunegala, Ceylon; Dublin; Delhi, India; Secunderabad, India.

During the year the following National Competitions were organised by the Council :

(a) FOR WOMEN TEACHERS.—The best Syllabus and Synopsis of Six Lessons on the Home in Relation to Maternity and Child Welfare : (i.) Open to Teachers of Domestic Science, Hygiene and Mothercraft and Nursery School Teachers ; (ii) Open to all Teachers other than (i).

(b) FOR MEN TEACHERS.—An Essay on the Correlation of the Teaching in the Schools with the necessities of Home Life, with special reference to the Welfare of Young Children in the Family and to Household Hygiene.

(c) FOR SCHOOL GIRLS.—Doll Dressing Competition. A doll dressed as a toddler three years of age.

(d) FOR SCHOOL BOYS.—An Essay on a Model Home for a Family consisting of Mother, Father, and three children, aged four years, two years, and nine months respectively, the eldest being the only boy.

These competitions were announced during National Baby Week and the results during Health Week in October.

National Baby Week was again marked by a Conference on Maternity and Infant Welfare, organised by the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality and other kindred National Societies. In connection with the Conference a special session arranged by the National Baby Week Council was addressed by Dr. C. W. Saleeby and Professor Leonard Hill, who took as their joint subject "The Blessing of Sunlight and the Curse of Smoke." During the Week a poster parade took place through the main streets of London and in addition there was an extensive display of Baby Week posters in a large number of London shops. A special Baby Week film display organised by the Council took place in the King George's Hall, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.C. Altogether about 600 persons attended the display which was a continuous performance lasting from 6 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. During the evening Dr. Agnes C. Scott, of the Lady Chelmsford All-India League for Maternity and Child Welfare spoke on the film "Child Welfare Work in India."

Baby Sunday was observed far more widely than in previous years and many clergy of all denominations throughout the country included the maternity and child welfare idea and ideal in their discourses on that day. On the Tuesday in National Baby Week, Dr. C. W. Saleeby broadcast an address on 'Saving the Future' from 2LO to all stations. This address was published in pamphlet form by the Council and nearly 5,000 copies were subsequently distributed upon request.

The steady development of films as a popular method of propaganda was particularly marked and during the year two new films were added to the Council's list, one entitled "Who

was to Blame?" and the other depicting convalescent care for nursing mothers. Several additions were made to the Council's publications and the requests for its various leaflets and pamphlets were considerably in excess of previous years.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD.

President :

THE LORD HENRY CAVENDISH BENTINCK, M.P.

Vice-Presidents :

CAPT. GEORGE BOWYER, M.C., M.P.

THE RT. HON. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, P.C., M.P.

SIR FRANCIS CHAMPNEYS, BART., M.D.

PROFESSOR E. W. HOPE, O.B.E.

THE RT. REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF KENSINGTON, D.D.

DR. F. BARRIE LAMBERT, C.B.E., L.C.C.

LADY MUSPRATT, J.P., C.C.

A. JERROLD NATHAN, ESQ.

DAME MARY SCHARLIEB, D.B.E., M.S., J.P.

COL. SIR CHARLES WAKEFIELD, BART., C.B.E.

Chairman : MRS. H. A. L. FISHER.

Deputy Chairmen :

MAJOR A. E. HUMPHREYS-OWEN, J.P. DR. W. G. WILLOUGHBY.

Chairman of Case Committee : THE LADY BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH.

Hon. Treasurer : LADY MUSPRATT, J.P., C.C.

Hon. Solicitor : WARDEN GOWING, ESQ., O.B.E.

Hon. Auditor : MAURICE JENKS, ESQ., F.C.A.

Hon. Secretary : MRS. ARTHUR WHITTING.

General Secretary : MISS SUSAN MUSSON.

Assistant Secretary : MISS MARIE CHAPMAN, M.B.E.

Bankers : MESSRS. COUTTS & CO.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1482.

The Council actively continued its programme of legislative work during the past year, but the Bastardy Bill unfortunately made no progress in Parliament. It was introduced by Lord Astor in the House of Lords, but the Second Reading was rejected without a division. The Council is deeply indebted to Lord Astor for the trouble and interest which he gave to the introduction of the Bill, and much regrets that other members of the House were so strongly influenced by the objections raised to the Bill by the Representative of the Home Office.

The Council is well aware that the new Bill is not popular in certain quarters, but is not too much discouraged by this fact. If all Bills were dropped for such a reason, there are many good and progressive measures which would never have reached the Statute Book. Sir Walter Greaves-Lord hopes to introduce the Bill again in the House of Commons this year, and the Council earnestly begs for help in its campaign to secure public support in favour of the Bill. Although the Bill has been re-drafted and amended on certain points, under the new title of "Bastardy Laws Amendment Bill", the main principles are the same as those of the Bastardy Bills previously introduced by Captain Bowyer and Lord Astor; i.e., (1) To give power to a Court to hear an affiliation case before the birth of the child, and to make an order under which the father is to contribute towards the support of the mother during the later months of pregnancy; (2) an order to be allowed against the father for pregnancy and confinement expenses, even though the child is stillborn; (3) power to be given to the child's guardian or to a Board of Guardians to secure an affiliation order in spite of the fact that the insanity or death of the mother makes it impossible for her evidence to be heard in the Court proceedings.

The following Homes and Hostels are now linked up with the Council, as "associated institutions":— Bethnal Green Hostel; Charcroft House, Hammersmith; Cross Roads Club, Hampstead; Damer Dawson Memorial Home, Hythe; Day Servants' Hostel, Chelsea; Edinburgh Babies' Home; Ely, Diocesan Maternity Home, Cambridge; Grove House, Bristol; Hackney Refuge, Stoke Newington; Foster Home, Hampstead; House of Help, Camberwell; Newcastle Diocesan Maternity Home; Putney Home and Hostel for Mothers and Babies; Incorporated Hostels, London; St. Agatha's Home, St. John's Wood; St. Faith's Home, Leeds; St. Joseph's Home, Lambeth; St. Margaret's Home, Leeds; South Petherton Home, Somerset; The Haven, Pontefract; The Hostel, Nottingham; Waltham House, Epsom; Woolwich and Plumstead Maternity Home; York Diocesan Maternity Home, Hull; Y.W.C.A. Hostel, Highbury. All these Homes or Hostels have representatives on the Council, as well as on the Consultative Committee on Homes and Hostels. The latter Committee meets when occasion requires, to discuss points particularly interesting to Committees and workers. At a Conference held in co-operation with the Central Council for Rescue and Preventive Work in London, a discussion took place on "Domestic Problems in Residential Homes": also in conjunction with this body, a social evening was recently

arranged at Carnegie House, when members of the Consultative Committee and Case Committee had a very pleasant meeting with the Lady Almoners of some of the London Hospitals which carry on maternity work. The Council took for its subject at the National Child Welfare Conference in connection with Baby Week, 1927, "The problem of the expectant unmarried mother." The Council is anxious to play its part in the campaign against maternal mortality, and continues its investigation and work in this direction.

The recent introduction to the Statute Book of certain new Acts of Parliament has changed the legal position of the illegitimate child in England and Wales in some respects, and the Council has again had the pleasure of revising its leaflet, "Some points of the law relating to the unmarried mother and her child." The leaflet is not intended as a treatise on the law, but aims at providing social workers with some rudimentary facts. The new (and third) edition includes paragraphs on the provisions of the Legitimacy Act, and the Adoption of Children Act. In addition to the information originally provided on affiliation, powers of local health authorities and boards of guardians, collecting officers, etc., new paragraphs have been added which touch upon the questions of criminal assault, criminal abortion, seduction, etc. All these points are among those on which the Council is constantly asked for information and advice, and the new leaflet has been warmly welcomed by workers in different spheres of social activity.

The Council is always anxious to keep closely in touch with local Committees which concern themselves with the care of the unmarried mother and illegitimate child, and has always desired to avoid over-lapping with local work, especially in connection with individual cases. With this intention, the Council now has Correspondent Committees in most of the large cities of Great Britain, and has recently had the satisfaction of adding the Bristol Women's Aid Association to their number.

Although it is impossible for the Case Committee to keep in touch with the majority of individual cases for which its help is asked in temporary difficulty, or in an advisory capacity, there are certain mothers and children who remain a more or less permanent care and anxiety. It is encouraging, however, to receive a visit at the office from small boys or girls who have been befriended by the Council since their earliest days and are now sturdy young persons of school age, whilst it is equally gratifying to find a mother doing well in her employment, and carrying out her duties to the child to the best of her ability.

NATIONAL HEALTH SOCIETY.

FOUNDED 1872.

INCORPORATED 1884.

President :

H.R.H. PRINCESS LOUISE, DUCHESS OF ARGYLL.

President of the Council :

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

Chairman : SIR JAMES CRICHTON BROWNE, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Vice-Chairman : PROFESSOR KENWOOD, M.B., D.P.H.

Treasurer : SIR ADRIAN POLLOCK (Chamberlain of the City of London).

Secretary : MISS C. DICKENS.

Office : 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.

Telephone : Sloane 3613.

The National Health Society has continued its work as an approved Centre for the Training of Health Visitors throughout the year. Some anxiety has been felt regarding the scarcity of students presenting themselves for training since the inauguration of the new regulations of the Ministry of Health in 1925. But since the time-limit given by the Ministry for the strict enforcement of the regulations expired in April, 1928, the position is somewhat more satisfactory and the number of students increasing. The importance of the work of the Health Visitor is now so great, that any serious shortage of fully trained women would be disastrous. The National Health Society has presented candidates at each of the three examinations held by the Health Visitor's Examination Board (Royal Sanitary Institute) during the past twelve months, June, 1927 to June, 1928, and on each occasion our percentage of "passes" was very satisfactory. The majority of the successful candidates have obtained suitable appointments and others are completing their training in other branches of the work.

The Society continues to carry on its other activities and has met requests for Homely Talks for Mothers' Meetings, etc., but the demand for this class of instruction has naturally decreased with the institution of Infant Welfare Centres, etc. The home instruction needed is more adequately and directly given through the Health Visitors and Infant Welfare Worker, to whose training the Society gives so much individual attention.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

(BLIND BABIES DEPARTMENT.)

"SUNSHINE HOMES FOR BLIND BABIES."

President : H.R.H. PRINCESS BEATRICE.

Conducted by the National Institute for the Blind,
224-226-228, Great Portland Street, W.1.

(Registered under the Blind Persons Act, 1920.)

Patrons :

H.M. THE KING.

H.M. THE QUEEN.

Chairman : CAPT. SIR BEACHCROFT TOWSE, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E.

Vice-Chairman : SIR MICHAEL O'DWYER, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

Hon. Treasurers : G. F. MOWATT, J.P.

A. J. W. KITCHIN, C.I.E.

Secretary-General : W. MCG. EAGAR.

The National Institute for the Blind became affiliated to the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare in 1923, one of the Institute's chief activities being the establishment and maintenance of Homes for Blind Babies.

The three Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies, established and maintained by the Institute at Chorley Wood, Herts., Southport, Lancs., and Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, fulfil a purpose in the blind world which is yearly becoming more vital in its effect. It must be obvious to everyone who has ever been concerned with any educational system that the first five years of life are all-important in the formation of the foundations of character. The training of blind babies is, therefore, a work of the highest national importance, because when all British blind babies are "Sunshine" babies too, then the blind community will have much to hope for and little to fear in the future. The most vigorous progress always emanates from within a community, and it will rest with such blind men and women as it is hoped the Sunshine Homes will produce to transform the endeavour of to-day into the accomplishment of to-morrow. For as the danger to the blind community lies in the untrained children blind from birth, so does the hope of the sightless world live in the minds of those who even from infancy have the will and the knowledge to conquer blindness.

Below is a table illustrating the work accomplished at the Blind Babies' Homes during last year :—

Admissions and Discharges for the year ended 31st March, 1928.

		Chorley Wood.	South- port.	Leaming- ton.	Total.
Number in Homes 31st March, 1927	...	23	29	31	83
Add admissions during year	...	13	12	8	33
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Less discharges	...	36	41	39	116
	...	17	10	8	35
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals on 31st March, 1928	...	19	31	31	81

Discharges :

- 19 Transferred to Residential Schools for the Blind.
- 1 Transferred to Day Schools for the Blind.
- 1 Transferred to Day Class for Partially Sighted Children.
- 10 Unsuitable for retention—Mental and Physical Disabilities.
- 2 Withdrawn by Parents.
- 2 Deceased.

But the following extracts from the reports of the Kindergarten teachers at the Homes give a far better idea than any statistics of the value of the Homes :—

From Chorley Wood—

“From May until October we were able to work largely out-of-doors. This is a great delight to the children, and they all help in carrying apparatus and story books from the Kindergarten across the lawn and so to ‘School’ under the beech tree. They also help to arrange their little basket chairs and tables which are carefully packed away each afternoon in case of rain. The garden, as usual, provided much material for our Nature lessons. In the kitchen garden we gathered sage, lavender, mint, rosemary, thyme and southernwood, and some of these we dried and put into little bags so that we might have something to ‘smell’ all through the winter. In the autumn we gathered beech nuts and ‘conquers’ and the latter were pierced and then threaded into necklaces. Sometimes we went in the ‘sand pit’, and the children thoroughly enjoyed making sand pies.

“A very favourite occupation this year has been plasticine modelling. Some of the bigger children have made very creditable little models, whilst the wee ones have enjoyed rolling out long lengths and calling them ‘drum-sticks’ ”.

From Southport—

“The children have worked very intelligently with the Montessori and sense-training apparatus, and indirectly have discovered interesting facts concerning objects in their apparatus that occur in their everyday life. From their apparatus they

have discovered various dimensions, capacity, shapes, and the texture of most objects.

“Handwork has been governed by the children’s interests. Subjects have been chosen in connection with Nature study, stories, and individual interests apart from lessons in raffia, wool winding and paper folding. The elder children undertook the task of making a doll’s house, but found the nailing of wood together rather a difficulty.

“They have been interested in all types of stories about animals, flowers, fairies, and the seasons, but those that have the most appeal are about children, dolls, and everyday life. Many nursery rhymes and short poems have been learnt with great enthusiasm.

“The children, in the free-play periods, have developed their own individuality. A very happy social atmosphere has lasted through the whole year, and the children have shown great kindness to one another.”

From Leamington—

“All the children join in marching, games and dancing, and the result is very pleasing and encouraging. Their dancing is the best I have seen, and requires quite a good amount of concentration.

“They learn both tunes and words of songs very quickly, and sing sweetly and in tune—most of them sing very nicely alone. Every morning we employ a few minutes by naming notes played on the piano—there is a great protest of disappointment if they think this ‘game’ has been forgotten. The majority can name the middle notes, say if notes are high or low, say if one is playing up the scale or down. Several of the older ones quickly give the key and time of a piece, and three children can name any note played on the piano and give the key of a common chord, no matter which octave it is played in. The sense of rhythm and time is satisfactory.

“Their powers of observation and concentration are quite good for their years, and each child is making definite progress.”

The question of the retention up to the age of seven years of all children admitted to the Sunshine Homes has been discussed during the year, and it is considered that all requirements are met by the rule recognised by the Board of Education that children may be retained up to the age of seven years when, in the Institute’s opinion, such retention is in the best interests of the children concerned.

It is naturally impossible to estimate any future number of blind babies. Fortunately, it appears to be decreasing; but should it be otherwise, and should the accommodation required exceed the existing accommodation, steps will be taken to establish a fourth Home.

NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR HEALTH, MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

INCORPORATED 1905.

Chairman : DR. G. F. STILL.

Hon. Secretaries : DR. ERIC PRITCHARD and MISS J. HALFORD, O.B.E.

Hon. Treasurer : MR. ALFRED HOARE.

Hon. Solicitor : MR. J. E. WALKER, 29, Southampton Buildings,
Chancery Lane, W.C.

Hon. Auditor : MESSRS. CASSLETON ELLIOTT & CO.,
46, Throgmorton Avenue, E.C.2.

Bankers : MESSRS. HOARE & CO., 37, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

Offices : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1140.

The National League is composed of seven National Societies whose representatives form the Executive Committee. Thanks to a policy of allowing each of these Constituent Societies complete autonomy, while linking them together for mutual interchange of experience, their co-ordination has proved very helpful.

Since 1924, when the balance of the funds of the Women's Imperial Health Association was placed in the hands of the National League, on the closing down of the former, the money has been used to supply the free services of competent lecturers to organisations able to provide an adequate audience of women. During 1927 these audiences were chiefly found among Girl Guide Companies, Girls' Friendly Societies, branches of the Mothers' Union and similar institutions.

One of the most successful of the many sessions which the League has held in connection with the Annual Conference of Educational Associations, was that on "Open-Air Schools" at the 1927 Conference. It had the great advantage of having Dr. Ralph Crowley, of the Ministry of Health, in the Chair; Miss M. Gardner (Blackburn), Dr. F. A. Sharpe (Preston), and Dr. R. J. Maule Horne (Poole) contributed most excellent and stimulating papers, which evoked a well-sustained discussion.

The greater part of the work of the League cannot be reduced to statistics, but that it makes its influence felt throughout the United Kingdom as well as in most of the English-speaking and many foreign countries is evidenced by the cosmopolitan character of its correspondence and of the interviews it grants. The total number of letters received amounted to 19,332, while the out-going letters, parcels and magazines totalled 39,073. If to this is added the total number of telephone calls made and received, amounting approximately to 10,000, and a daily average of 20 callers, it will be realised that the eleven members of the staff have a hard struggle to keep down arrears of work.

The League's publications, most of which are prepared for it by the Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres, proved as popular as ever, no fewer than 360,000 copies having been sold. These are a valuable source of revenue, without which, indeed, the League could hardly continue to exist.

The Tired Mothers' Holiday Fund was founded in 1921 by the late Sir Arthur Acland, to provide holidays and rest for those who, owing to difficult home conditions, have not the means to take a holiday, but struggle on from year to year with nothing to break the daily drab routine of their lives. Thirty-seven tired mothers with their babies were able to benefit by a holiday during 1927. The rules governing the grant are few, but the mother must be a member of a Welfare Centre, through which all investigations are made. The grant is available for country centres as well as those situated in the cities.

Many and various are the appeals for information and help which reach the National League by telephone and letter, or by personal application. By far the greater number of enquiries are still from parents anxious to find homes for their children. It seems incredible to those who are not familiar with the work, that it should be necessary for so many parents to have to be separated from their children. Bad housing conditions, and the necessity for husband and wife to take "living-in" jobs are the most frequent reasons given in asking for advice and help. In each case enquiries are first made as to the real need for the help asked for, the type of home required, and the scale of payment that can be made. Applicants are then put in touch with suitable institutions, private homes or foster-mothers, but since the League has no facilities for inspecting homes, even were it its duty to do so, no actual recommendation is given, though reasonable care is taken to see that there is a possibility of the home suggested being a reliable and suitable one.

Every year the raising of funds for philanthropic societies seems to be harder and harder, and more and more time and energy has to be devoted to this, at the expense of the work itself. The League is proud of the fact that it has not yet resorted to commercialised begging, so that every penny subscribed has always been spent on the work itself, and none has had to go to meet the expenses of raising funds.

The work of the Employment Bureau has gone on steadily during the year. 770 vacancies were registered, for which there were only 665 applicants. This, of course, means that the average of posts filled is not as high as could be wished, the exact number of successful candidates being 252, which was slightly less than in the previous year. There is still a serious shortage of trained nurses to report, and the Bureau is constantly appealed to by anxious mothers clamouring for Nursery College-trained girls.

Babies' Homes Department.

This Section of the League controls and finances three Convalescent Homes for infants and children under 5 years of age, at Arkley, Basing and Maidenhead. It also takes an active part in the management of two Nursery Training Schools—the Creagh Nursery Training School at Addison House, Holland Villas Road, and the Babies' Hotel, Buxted Lodge, Clapham Park. The total number of cots available at these Homes is 84 and 40 probationer students are there trained annually to become efficient nursery nurses.

The Marjorie Lumley Toddlers' Convalescent Home, at Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, has almost completed its eighth year of service to the League, having been open since January 1921. The accommodation is more limited than at the other Homes, as only eight children are received at a time; but although one often wishes, especially during the summer months, that room could be found for more children, those who are fortunate enough to secure a cot in time, reap the benefit of a really "homey" atmosphere. During the past year 66 children were received at the Home, and the average length of their convalescence was five weeks. The cost per head per week amounted to £1. 9s. 6d. The children admitted to the Marjorie Lumley Home are generally of the class that require a holiday, more than actual convalescence, as they are largely drawn from the type diagnosed as suffering from "general debility." Fresh air, good food and regular sleep make a wonderful difference in these children.

The John Madocks Convalescent Babies' Home, at Old Basing, nr. Basingstoke, is one of the few in the United Kingdom run for the benefit of convalescent babies only and continues to carry on its two-fold purpose of Babies' Home and Training School for nursery nurses. Although owing to its situation it is not possible to keep this Home open during the cold winter months, the type and number of cases treated during the remaining months of the year make it a valuable asset to the League's activities on behalf of Child Welfare. Forty-six babies were received during the year. The average length of stay is longer than at the other Homes, as most of the cases require prolonged convalescence and very careful nursing. During 1927, the average length of stay was 7 weeks 3 days, while the average cost per head per week amounted to £2. 6s .0d.

The Arkley Toddlers' Convalescent Home, at Oaklands Lane, Arkley, Nr. High Barnet, has accommodation for 12 children, and there is always a waiting list. During the past year, 80 children have been admitted to the Home. The length of stay varies, as some cases require prolonged convalescence, but the average was six weeks, at a cost of £1. 3s. 8d. per head per week.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF DAY NURSERIES.

Office : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

Secretary : MISS MADDOCK.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1283

The Society has carried on its work of helping and co-ordinating the Nurseries much as usual during the past year.

The Council Meetings form a useful opportunity for the Matrons and Committee members of the various Nurseries to meet and discuss problems affecting their work. The first meeting was addressed by Sir Bruce Bruce-Porter who gave a most helpful address on "How to Keep Fit" with special reference to the health of Staff and Probationers, a most important subject.

A very different but equally inspiring address was given at the second meeting of the Council by Mr. Wilfred Buckley on "Clean Milk."

Lectures to Probationers were unusually well attended and the Courses were given by Dr. Victoria Bennett, Dr. Prudence Gaffikin and Dr. Mabel Brodie. This Nursery Training scheme is warmly welcomed by Institutions all over the United Kingdom; great keenness is shewn in the examinations and the results are most encouraging. This is a useful side of our work and the demand for Nursery Nurses with this special training is steadily increasing.

At the Child Welfare Conference in July the Society arranged one Session and the Speakers included Professor Leonard Hill, Dr. Kirkhope (M.O.H. for Tottenham) and Lady Erleigh. The Society was also responsible for several social functions in connection with the Conference.

The Course of Lectures for Mothers, organised by Lady Erleigh in the autumn was particularly well attended and much literature was sold.

In July the Annual Meeting was held at Lady Islington's house and the address was given by Professor Winifred Cullis.

The Society has been able to give substantial assistance, in the shape of Grants to Nurseries, both in London and the Provinces, which were in need of help. Many Nurseries have effected improvements during the year with the help and advice from the Society and financial assistance from the Ministry of Health.

H.R.H. Princess Mary formally opened the Sun Babies' Nursery at Hoxton in May in the presence of the Minister of Health and a distinguished company.

The Society lost one of its oldest and most valued members in Mrs. Ralli, who died suddenly in August, and Lady Henry's death earlier in the year was also deeply regretted.

Mrs. Max Holman and Miss Ruth Howard, who take an active interest in Nursery work, have been elected members of the Executive Committee.

The need for resident accommodation for young children, either in emergency cases or for holidays, is very great and the Homes connected with the Society—the Holiday Home at Tunbridge Wells, the Babies' Hotel at Clapham Park and the St. Margaret's Guest House at Battersea Park, have all done splendid work during the past year. More Homes, run on these lines, would be of great value.

THE STATE CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION.

Chairmen :

THE LATE RT. HON. VISCOUNT PEEL, Chairman, 1896-7.
 THE LATE RT. HON. LORD HERSCHELL, Chairman, 1897-9.
 THE LATE RT. HON. EARL GREY, Chairman, 1899-1900.
 THE MOST HON. THE MARQUESS OF CREWE, Chairman, 1901-5.
 THE RT. HON. LORD BURGHCLERE, Chairman, 1906-7.
 THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF LYTTON, Chairman, 1908-22.
 THE RT. HON. VISCOUNT CHELMSFORD, Chairman, 1922-23.
 THE RT. HON. LORD STANMORE, Chairman, 1924.

Vice-Chairmen : LORD HENRY CAVENDISH BENTINCK, M.P.
 MR. K. G. RUSSELL VAIZEY.

Hon. Treasurers : MR. BERESFORD V. MELVILLE.

THE RT. HON. SIR ALBERT SPICER, BART.

Hon. Secretaries : DAME HENRIETTA BARNETT, D.B.E.

MR. J. A. LOVAT-FRASER.

Bankers : THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LTD.,
 St. James's Street Branch.

Office : 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

Telephone : Grosvenor 2734.

The State Children's Association has lost no opportunity during the past year of furthering the principles and reforms for the promotion of which it exists. It has advocated individual as against institutional treatment of Poor Law children and the extension of probation and of humane treatment in the case of children who break the law. By interviews, by correspondence, by articles in the press, by the circulation of literature, by speeches and by every method open to zealous propaganda the work has been steadily carried on. Many inquirers have sought for information about the work of the Association, even from distressed and chaotic China.

In the Report for last year apprehension was expressed at the scheme for the reform of the Poor Law put forward by the Ministry of Health, in which it was proposed to transfer the work of poor relief from the Boards of Guardians to the County and County Borough Councils. It was pointed out by the Guardians and others that the services of a large number of women who now interest themselves in Poor Law work would be lost and it was urged that this would be disastrous to the Poor Law children. An amended scheme, however, was published in June 1927 which proposed to retain the office of

Guardian, but to combine it with the office of Councillor of Boroughs and Urban and Rural District Councils. The later scheme is better than the first in so far as it is easier for women to get on to the smaller Councils than to the larger ones. In any change that takes place, great vigilance will have to be exercised to prevent the loss of anything that has been won for the children by years of effort.

The Association has continuously protested against the keeping of children over the age of three in the workhouse. The last Annual Report of the Ministry of Health says,

“The evils which may result from allowing children to mix with the ordinary inmates of a workhouse are too obvious to need recital.”

Yet there are still many Unions, particularly in the South-West district of England, that keep their children in the workhouse. In that district, which comprises the counties of Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, only thirty out of sixty-two Unions have provided homes for the children dependent on the rates apart from the workhouse. The Inspector of the Ministry of Health for the District says that he found children in contact with men and women of doubtful character and states that the training of the girls was so imperfect in one workhouse that it was possible for a girl of fourteen to leave the workhouse without knowing how to cut and butter a slice of bread and without knowing the difference between a saucepan and a frying-pan.

An article by Mr. Lovat-Fraser in *The Contemporary Review* for January 1928, on “Children in the Workhouse” was reprinted and widely circulated. Copies were sent to nearly forty newspapers in “the black spot.”

The work of getting friends for children in Industrial Schools has been pursued but not without difficulties. Articles on the work have appeared in *Home Notes*, *The Wheatsheaf*, *The Schoolmaster* and other papers, and people, after reading the articles, write impulsively and offer help, but slacken in interest when it comes to practical effort. Where friends have been secured the results are beautiful and sometimes touching.

The Association continues to advocate probation which makes steady, if slow, progress. In 1926 the number of children tried in juvenile courts who had been put on probation had risen to 28.12 from 26.18 in 1925, and 23.14 in 1924. An effort has

been made to stop the illegal and objectionable practice of ordering boys to be whipped, while at the same time putting them on probation. The Association has not been successful in inducing the Home Secretary to stop the practice.

The Association co-operated with the Howard League for Penal Reform in organising a successful and well-attended meeting in Gray's Inn Hall in April 1927 on "The Place of Medical Psychology in a Legal Education." It was presided over by Mr. Justice Sankey and addressed by Dr. Hamblin Smith of Birmingham and Dr. William Brown of Oxford. Mr. Lovat-Fraser also attended a Conference called by the Howard League for Penal Reform in October, where he was asked to propose a resolution calling for the inclusion of younger magistrates of both sexes especially qualified to deal with young people on the Bench of every Juvenile Court.

The Annual Meeting of the Association was held on 21st October at 30, Ennismore Gardens, the house of Lady Emmott, who took the Chair. There was a good attendance and speeches were made by Dame Henrietta Barnett, Lady Sydenham, Miss Paine, Mr. Lovat-Fraser, Sir Albert Spicer and Colonel Thomson.

BALANCE SHEET,

31st MARCH, 1928.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR INFANT AND CHILD WELFARE (INCORPORATED).

We have audited the above Balance Sheet dated 31st March, 1928, with the books and vouchers of the Company and have received all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to show the true and correct position of the Company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Company.

ALDERMAN'S HOUSE,
BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2.
21st May, 1928.

BLACKBURNS, BARTON MAYHEW & CO.,
*Chartered Accountants,
Auditors.*

Dr. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1928. Cr.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
TO EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION—							
Audit Fee 1926/27	...	12	12	0			
Depreciation of Furniture, &c.	...	7	3	0			
Gen. Expenses, Travelling, &c.	...	62	2	3			
Postage and Telegrams	...	13	15	6			
Printing and Stationery	...	83	13	0			
(Including Report, 1927)	...	475	11	10			
Salaries	...				654	17	7
HOUSE ACCOUNT—							
Caretaker, Cleaning and Lift	...	724	0	2			
General Repairs	...	62	14	6			
Insurance	...	41	12	0			
Lighting and Heating	...	172	15	3			
Rents, Rates, &c.	...	1,342	6	8			
Telephone	...	19	15	8			
Less:		2,363	4	3			
Rents Recoverable	£922 6 4						
Hall Hire, &c.	52 3 6						
		974	9	10			
					1,388	14	5
					168	7	1
BALCONY REPAIRS (per contra)							
Trav. & Permanent Exhibit'ns:							
Organiser's Salary	...	350	0	0			
General Salaries	...	309	8	8			
Travelling and other expenses	...	242	18	9			
Purchases	...	348	7	10			
Less:		1,250	15	3			
Fees and Travelling Exp. Sales,		913	19	11			
Donations, Collections, &c.	...				336	15	4
					50	0	0
					100	0	0
GRANT TO COLLEGE OF NURSING							
SUBSCRIPTION TO JOURNAL	...						
INSTIT. OF I.W. FUND (per contra)	...						
Expended	...	40	6	7			
Balance transf. to Balance Sheet	...	59	13	5			
					100	0	0
					£2,798	14	5

£2,798 14 5

THE FOLLOWING GRANTS HAVE BEEN MADE SINCE 1919:—

	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
National Health Society	—	—	125	50	25	—	200
Incorporated Midwives' Institute ...	500	—	—	—	50	—	550
Invalid Children's Aid Association ...	700	—	700	200	250	100	1,950
I.C.A.A. (London Central Spectacles Association)	—	—	400	200	—	—	600
National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare	200	—	500	200	250	100	1,250
National Society of Day Nurseries ...	100	250	—	100	100	50	600
London Federation of Infant Welfare Centres... ..	—	—	100	100	—	—	200
National Baby Week Council	500	500	50	100	200	—	1,350
Children's Jewel Fund	500	—	—	—	—	—	500
Mothercraft Training Society	500	500	—	—	100	—	1,100
National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child	250	750	125	100	150	75	1,450
Central Committee for the Care of Cripples	500	—	250	100	—	75	925
Child Welfare Travelling Exhibition ...	150	275	28	—	—	—	453
State Children's Association	—	—	—	—	50	50	100
Balham Day Nursery	—	100	—	—	—	—	100
Council of Evangelical Free Churches' Maternity and Training Home, Mere, Wilts.	—	50	—	—	—	—	50
Princess Christian's Day Nursery, Windsor	100	—	—	—	—	—	100
Princess Marie Louise Babies' Club, Bermondsey	200	—	—	—	—	—	200
Queen Mary's Maternity Home, Hampstead	100	—	—	—	—	—	100
Salvation Army	—	100	500	—	—	—	600
Southwark Diocesan Rescue Association	—	25	—	—	—	—	25
West Islington Infant Welfare Centre	150	—	—	—	—	—	150
Total	£4,450	£2,550	£2,778	£1,150	£1,175	£450	£12,553

